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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/099,789

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A. Kent Sievers

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EXAMINER

WANG, LIANG CHE A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2453

MAIL DATE

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/099,789	Applicant(s) SIEVERS ET AL.	
	Examiner Liangche A. Wang	Art Unit 2453	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 October 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 26-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 26-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-7, 26-38 are presented for examination.
2. Claims 1, 26 and 33 are amended.
3. This action is in response to amendment filed on 10/29/08.

The New Grounds of Rejection

4. Applicant's amendment and argument with respect to claims 1-7, 26-38 have been fully considered but they are deemed to be moot in views of the new grounds of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-7, 26-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quine et al., hereinafter Quine, US Publication Number 2003/0115280 in views of Sheldon, US Publication Number 2002/0169840, hereinafter Sheldon.
7. Referring to claim 1, Quine teaches a method for defining an electronic address (page 2 [0012]), comprising:
 - a. selecting a preferred domain name (page 2 [0012] lines 7-9);
 - b. selecting a preferred address format (page 8 [0079] lines 9-12);

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- c. selecting one or more additional address formats in addition to the preferred address format (page 2 [0012] lines 3-5, page 8 [0079]);
- d. retaining the preferred domain name, the preferred address format, and the one or more additional address formats to define the electronic address (page 8 [0079] lines 12-13), wherein the preferred domain name include an Internet domain name selected from one or more of the following domain names: ".com," ".edu," ".org," ".gov," ".bus," ".pro," (figure 7, ".com") and a country domain (well known in the art that a email address may contain a country domain e.g. ".com.tw"), wherein the preferred address format and the one or more additional address formats are separated from the domain names by a delimiter (figure 7) and the preferred domain name and the one or more additional address formats uniquely identifies a handle to a resource within an environment defined by the Internet domain name (inherent features of sending an message using an email address. The email address in figure 7, quinedo@pd.com , where the domain pd.com is defining an environment, and "pd" could be the handle that is uniquely identified to a resource within an environment defined by the Internet domain name), and wherein the electronic address is used to route and to deliver messages over the Internet to the resource defined by the electronic address (inherent feature of email addresses); and
- e. wherein the electronic address is defined as variable electronic characters that define permissible types of electronic characters that are permissible within the email address (figure 7, sample addresses show different permissible type of

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electronic characters that are permissible within the email address) , and wherein the email address is resolved within an email system using a directory service to acquire attributes for the resource that populate values for the variable electronic characters to define the email address for the resource (figure 7, format 701s show email address is resolved within an email system using a directory service to acquire attributes for the resource that populate values for the variable electronic characters to define the email address for the resource).

Quine does not teach selecting one or more additional domain names in addition to the preferred address format, and retaining the one or more additional domain names.

Sheldon teaches users can dynamically create multiple e-mail addresses by adding suffix to the root email address (suffix.username@domainname.com and username@domainname.com) (page 3 [0044], and page 11 [0122]).

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to create additional email address with additional domain selected from one of the following domain names: ".com," ".edu," ".org," ".gov," ".bus," ".pro," because both Quine and Sheldon teaches inventions relating to defining electronic addresses.

A person with ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to make the modification to Quine because having the multiple email address of a user would allow ease in managing the vast volume of email messages received as taught by Sheldon (page 1 [0008]).

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8. Referring to claim 2, Quine as modified teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising acquiring a text string associated with a preferred electronic address and retaining the text string to further define the electronic address (figure 7 [0079] data formats are presented in a various orders of text strings.)
9. Referring to claim 3, Quine as modified teaches the method of claim 2, wherein in acquiring the text string, the text string is dynamically acquired from a directory object, when present in the directory object (see figure 7, when a particular format is being selected, the real first name and last name are acquired dynamically to form the electronic address).
10. Referring to claim 4, Quine as modified teaches the method of claim 2, wherein in acquiring the text string, the preferred electronic address is calculated from a directory (figure 7, preferred electronic address is calculated from the directory of first and last name.)
11. Referring to claim 5, Quine as modified teaches the method of claim 1, wherein in selecting the preferred address format and the one or more additional address formats, the formats include one or more subcomponents (figure 7 [0079] format could be consisting first name and last name.)
12. Referring to claim 6, Quine as modified teaches the method of claim 1, wherein in selecting the preferred address format and the one or more additional address formats, the one or more subcomponents are order independent within the preferred address format and the one or more allowable address formats (figure 7, formats list 701, subcomponent LAST is independent to subcomponent FIRST.)

13. Referring to claim 7, Quine as modified teaches the method of claim 1, wherein in selecting the preferred address format and the one or more additional address formats, the preferred address format and the one or more additional address formats include one or more subcomponents, and wherein the one or more subcomponents include at least one of an electronic login name, an administrator defined identification, a first name, a last name, a middle initial, a middle name, and a nick name (see figure 7.)
14. Referring to claim 26, Quine teaches a method comprising:
 - a. assigning a domain with an electronic mail (email) definition (page 2 [0012] lines 7-9, figure 7), each domain is a valid Internet domain name defined by explicit string values that represent acceptable Internet domain names (figure 7, “pd.com”);
 - b. assigning multiple prefix formats with the email definition (page 2 [0012] lines 7-9, figure 7);
 - c. retaining the email definition, wherein any selected one of the multiple prefix formats when combined with any selected domain resolves to a same electronic address (page 8 [0079] lines 12-13), wherein the same electronic address identifies a resource over the Internet that is to receive messages that are routed over the Internet using combinations of the multiple prefix formats combined with any selected one of the domains to unique identify the resource over the Internet ((page 2 [0012] lines 3-5, page 8 [0079], figure 7); and
 - d. wherein the electronic definition is defined as variable electronic characters resolved within an email system (figure 7, sample addresses show different

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permissible type of electronic characters that are permissible within the email address) by using a directory service to acquire attributes for the resource that populate the variable electronic characters to obtain the same email address for the resource (figure 7, format 701s show email address is resolved within an email system using a directory service to acquire attributes for the resource that populate values for the variable electronic characters to define the email address for the resource).

Quine does not teach selecting one or more additional domain names in addition to the preferred address format, and retaining the one or more additional domain names.

Sheldon teaches users can dynamically create multiple e-mail addresses by adding suffix to the root email address (suffix.username@domainname.com and username@domainname.com) (page 3 [0044], and page 11 [0122]).

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to create additional email address with additional domain selected from one of the following domain names: ".com," ".edu," ".org," ".gov," ".bus," ".pro," because both Quine and Sheldon teaches inventions relating to defining electronic addresses.

A person with ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to make the modification to Quine because having the multiple email address of a user would allow ease in managing the vast volume of email messages received as taught by Sheldon (page 1 [0008]).

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15. Referring to claims 27-38, claims 27-39 encompass the same scope of the invention as that of the claim 1-7 and 26. Therefore, claim 27-38 are rejected for the same reason as the claims 1-7, and 26.

Conclusion

16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Liangche A. Wang whose telephone number is (571)272-3992. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.
17. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571)272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
18. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Liang-che Alex Wang

December 4, 2008

/Liangche A. Wang/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2453